Amendments to the Specification

Please amend the title as follows:

METHOD~~, SYSTEM, AND ARTICLE OF MANUFACTURE~~ FOR VALIDATING A REMOTE DEVICE

Please amend the Abstract as follows:

~~Provided are a method, system, and article of manufacture, wherein in certain embodiments a~~ A first device determines a possibility of an invalidation of a second device, wherein the first device is coupled to the second device via a fabric. A query is sent from the first device to validate the second device, in response to determining the possibility of the invalidation of the second device. A determination is made, at the first device, whether to continue I/O operations from the first device to the second device based on receiving a response to the query within a time period.

Please amend paragraph 4 starting on page 1, line 25 as follows:

An ~~enterprise storage server~~ ENTERPRISE STORAGE SERVER* (ESS) may be a disk storage server that includes one or more processors coupled to storage devices, including high capacity scalable storage devices, Redundant Array of Independent Disks (RAID), etc. The ~~enterprise storage servers~~ ENTERPRISE STORAGE SERVERs (disk storage servers) may be connected to a network, such as a fibre channel network, and include features for copying data in storage systems. Peer-to-Peer Remote Copy (PPRC) is an ESS copy function that allows the shadowing of application system data from a first site to a second site. The first site may be referred to as an application site, a local site, or a primary site. The second site may be referred to as a recovery site, a remote site, or a secondary site. In certain implementations, the first and second site may be coupled via fibre channel networks that includes switches.

Please amend page 17, lines 26-27 as follows (starts on page 17, line 26):

* ~~Enterprise Storage Server~~ ENTERPRISE STORAGE SERVER (ESS) is a trademark of International Business Machines Corp.